Funding Will Support Transportation Research Serving the Ports of Long Beach and LA

Washington, DC - Rep. Linda Sánchez (D-CA) announced today that she has secured initial support for \$1.6 million in federal funding for California State University Long Beach's Center for the Commercial Deployment of Transportation Technologies, a cutting-edge maritime and logistics research institution. The funds will support research on critical maritime military and commercial transportation issues, including the efficient movement of cargo through local ports, as well as the effectiveness of cargo port and supply chain security. The investment was included in the Fiscal Year 2010 Defense Appropriations Bill which was passed by the House of Representatives today. The bill will now proceed to the Senate then must be signed by President Obama to become law.

"I am very pleased that the defense bill includes my request for key research projects at Cal State Long Beach," said Rep. Linda Sánchez. "These investments are critical to developing and implementing green transportation technology that can provide us cleaner air and less crowded freeways."

Rep. Sánchez praised the work of the Center for the Commercial Deployment of Transportation Technologies in improving the movement of cargo to and from our ports and was pleased to be able to work with CCDoTT to ensure this funding emphasizes the development of environmentally-friendly technologies, including high-speed transportation that will help alleviate traffic and improve local air quality.

Serving the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the Center for the Commercial Deployment of Transportation Technologies is a U.S. Navy approved and supported research and development institution. The Center's Agile Port and High Speed Ship Technology program, which will be funded by this appropriation, has become a research leader on dual-use civilian/military transportation technologies that will make the movement of goods and people more efficient.

"As with all of our appropriations legislation, we have been looking closely at every line of our budget to eliminate and cut programs that aren't working, and invest responsibly in key priorities that will protect our country and grow our economy," added Rep. Sánchez. "Our budget for this year makes smart, needed investments in our communities that will promote long-term economic growth."

The Fiscal Year 2010 Defense Appropriations Bill also makes a commitment to fiscal responsibility by reigning in outsourcing and putting Defense personnel, not contractors, in charge of critical department functions. At the same time, it will allow the Inspector General to hire additional investigators to ensure proper oversight of Department of Defense acquisition and contracting.

To help Americans hit hardest by this recession, this bill also provides emergency relief by extending unemployment insurance, helping with health insurance premiums through the COBRA program, and funding for nutrition assistance programs to help families in need put food on their table.

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